

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A tracking device system consisting of:

a physical asset;

a transmitter, attached to the physical asset, for transmitting a first data signal;

a communication means for receiving the first data signal and subsequently transmitting a second data signal via a world wide web connection, the second data signal comprising a location of the transmitter; and

a receiving means for receiving the second data signal ~~from the communication means via a world wide web connection~~ and for housing a software program for enabling a user to use the received location to track the physical asset,

wherein the physical asset, the communication means and the receiving means are different devices, in continuous communication and track the location of the physical asset, and

the receiving means displays a status symbol corresponding to the location of the physical asset whereby if the status symbol is a first color the physical asset is not detected, if the status symbol is a second color the physical asset is detected but not detected in its proper location, and if the status symbol is a third color the physical asset is detected in its proper location.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A method of tracking an asset comprising the steps of:

forming a communications network by forming a world wide web connection between a personal computer and central server;

transmitting a first data signal in real-time, via the communications network, from the personal computer to the central server to inquire the location of a physical asset;

communicating with the physical asset from the central server via the communications network;

tracking the physical asset by transmitting a second data signal over the communications network, said second data signal comprising a location of the physical asset;

interrogating the second data signal to determine a status signal; and

storing the determined status signal in the central server; and

outputting a status symbol representing the stored status signal.

wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a first color status symbol if the physical asset is not detected, outputting a second color status symbol if the physical asset is detected in its proper location, and outputting a third color status symbol if the physical asset is detected, but not detected in its proper location.

Claim 4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

manipulating the stored status signal by using the personal computer to generate, save and print reports.

Claim 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]]1, wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a red status symbol if the physical asset is not detected.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]]1, wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a green status symbol if the physical asset is detected in its proper location.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[6]]1, wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a yellow status symbol if the physical asset is detected, but not detected in its proper location.

10. (Previously presented) The tracking device system of claim 1, wherein the communication means comprises a central server.

11. (Previously presented) The tracking device system of claim 1, wherein the receiving means comprises a personal computer.

12. (Previously presented) The tracking device system of claim 1, wherein the receiving means generates, saves and prints reports based on the second data signal.

Claim 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The tracking device system of claim [[13]]1, wherein the first color status symbol is a red status symbol ~~if the physical asset is not detected.~~

15. (Currently amended) The tracking device system of claim [[13]]1, wherein the third color status symbol is a green status symbol ~~if the physical asset is detected in its proper location.~~

16. (Currently amended) The tracking device system of claim [[13]]1, wherein the second color status symbol is a yellow status symbol ~~if the physical asset is detected, but not detected in its proper location.~~

17. (Previously presented) The tracking device system of claim 1, wherein the communication means further comprises a database for storing information about the first data signal.

18. (Previously presented) The tracking device system of claim 17, wherein the database is accessed by a user, the user having been granted exclusive access rights to the database and the user only gaining access by using a password or a personal identification number.

19. (Currently amended) A computer system, the system comprising:

a computer network;

at least one server in communication with the computer network;

a storage device for storing information;

at least one website linked to the at least one server through the computer network, wherein the website provides a user interface through which a user can access a tracking program; and

a tracking module, the tracking module comprising of the tracking device system consisting of:

a physical asset;

a transmitter, attached to the physical asset, for transmitting a first data signal;

a communication means for receiving the first data signal and subsequently transmitting a second data signal via a world wide web connection, the second data signal comprising a location of the transmitter; and

a receiving means for receiving the second data signal ~~from the communication means via a world wide web connection~~ and for housing a software program for enabling a user to use the received location to track the physical asset,

wherein the physical asset, the communication means and the receiving means are different devices, in continuous communication and track the location of the physical asset, and

the receiving means displays a status symbol corresponding to the location of the physical asset where if the status symbol is red the physical asset is not detected, if the status symbol is yellow the physical asset is detected but not detected in its proper location, and if the status symbol is green the physical asset is detected in its proper location.

20. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium containing a computer readable code for operating a computer to perform a method of tracking an asset, the method comprising the steps of:

forming a communications network by forming a world wide web connection between a personal computer and central server;

transmitting a first data signal in real-time, via the communications network, from the personal computer to the central server to inquire the location of a physical asset;

communicating with the physical asset from the central server via the communications network;

tracking the physical asset by transmitting a second data signal over the communications network, the second data signal comprising a location of the physical asset;

interrogating the second data signal to determine a status signal; and

storing the determined status signal in the central server; and

outputting a status symbol representing the stored status signal.

wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a red status symbol if the physical asset is not detected, the outputting step comprises outputting a green status symbol if the physical asset is detected in its proper location, and the outputting step comprises outputting a yellow status symbol if the physical asset is detected, but not detected in its proper location.

21. (Currently amended) A computer program transmitted over a communication medium to a computer system, said computer system comprising memory, a storage device and a processor in communication with said memory and storage device, said computer program causing said processor to perform the acts of:

forming a communications network by forming a world wide web connection between a personal computer and central server;

transmitting a first data signal in real-time, via the communications network, from the personal computer to the central server to inquire the location of a physical asset;

communicating with the physical asset from the central server via the communications network;

tracking the physical asset by transmitting a second data signal over the communications network, the second data signal comprising a location of the physical asset;

interrogating the second data signal to determine a status signal; ~~and~~

storing the determined status signal in the central server; and

outputting a status symbol representing the stored status signal,

wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a first color status symbol if the physical asset is not detected, outputting a second color status symbol if the physical asset is detected in its proper location, and outputting a third color status symbol if the physical asset is detected, but not detected in its proper location.

22. (Previously presented) The computer program of claim 21, wherein the communication medium is the internet.